

issues. He had a special interest in issues related to unions and the rights of workers. Mr. Kovacik was known for his compassionate heart and could always be counted on to lend a helping hand.

I extend my deepest condolences to his mother, Landa; to his sister, Lisa; to his brothers, David and Robert; to his niece and nephews, Elizabeth, Walker and Thomas; to his brother-in-law David and sister-in-law Magaly; and to his extended family members and many friends.

Madam Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honor and remembrance of Mr. Stephen John Kovacik III. Stephen John Kovacik's love for life, generous heart and kind demeanor lifted the lives of others. His soulful spirit will live on forever in the hearts and memories of his family and friends.

TRIBUTE TO HARRISON HIGH
SCHOOL MARCHING BAND

HON. PHIL GINGREY

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 14, 2009

Mr. GINGREY of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I would like to congratulate the Harrison High School marching band for being selected to participate in this year's Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade. The Hoyas were one of 8 high school marching bands chosen nationwide to participate in this once in a lifetime experience.

Being awarded this prestigious distinction for the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade is recognition of being one of the very best high school bands in the country. The Hoyas' selection is a testament to their dedication, devotion and hard work. The parade was a perfect opportunity for them to showcase their skills and countless hours of practice, and anyone who saw the parade on TV on Thanksgiving Day knows they did us proud.

I'd also like to commend the parents, faculty, and entire community who worked to make this possible by supporting the 193-member band.

Madam Speaker, on behalf of all my constituents, I am proud to congratulate the Hoyas on their selection and for their success at the parade.

IN HONOR OF MAYOR CHARLES E.
MOYER

HON. JOHN P. MURTHA

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 14, 2009

Mr. MURTHA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the service of Charles E. Moyer, the mayor of Ebensburg, Pennsylvania. He is retiring after 16 years as mayor. His hard work and dedication have had an immense impact on his community.

Mr. Moyer was born and raised in Ebensburg, where he attended Holy Name Grade School and Central Cambria High School before taking classes at Saint Francis University. He lives with his loving wife, Rose, and together they raised their daughter Denise and their late son David.

Mr. Moyer began serving Ebensburg in 1963 as a member of the Dauntless Fire Company and was its captain from 1973 to 1983. He first joined the Ebensburg Borough Council in 1974 and became council president in 1984, an office he held until he became mayor in 1994.

Mr. Moyer has been an officer of the Cambria County Boroughs Association since 1986, is a member of the Pennsylvania State Association of Boroughs Board of Trustees and Directors, and represents the association on the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation's New Product Evaluation Committee. Since 1997, Mr. Moyer has served on the Cambria County Conservation and Recreation Authority, working to develop recreational resources, including playgrounds and trail projects, in Cambria County. For the past 5 years, Mr. Moyer has also been a member of the Cambria County Airport Authority and has served on the board of directors for the Cambria Somerset Council of Governments for 15 years, including 2 years as the president.

Madam Speaker, during his distinguished career, Mr. Moyer received the Thomas F. Chrostwaite Award in 1993, the Distinguished Service Award in 2002, the Board of Directors Award in 2003, and the A.C. Scales Award from the Pennsylvania State Association of Boroughs in 2007 for exceptionally outstanding service.

As mayor and councilman, Mr. Moyer has been instrumental in the many improvements in Ebensburg. Most recently, the borough enacted a \$1.3 million Streetscape program to revitalize the downtown, which has allowed for the construction of Penn Eben Park with a gazebo-style band shell, new sidewalks, street lights, benches and trees as well as renovations of many buildings. New businesses have nearly filled all the storefronts in downtown Ebensburg.

Madam Speaker, I conclude my remarks by commending Charles E. Moyer for his service to his community. Through his years as a volunteer fireman, a councilman and finally as mayor, he has continually worked to make Ebensburg Borough a better place. His retirement closes a chapter on a long and fruitful career and the people of Ebensburg, along with those of us who have worked with Charlie, will surely miss him.

IN HONOR AND RECOGNITION OF
JEAN ELSNER

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 14, 2009

Mr. KUCINICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor and recognition of Jean Elsner, age 90, whose youthful spirit and lifelong quest for learning is being recognized at Cleveland State University's fall commencement ceremony, where she will be awarded the coveted President's Medal.

Mrs. Elsner grew up in Cleveland's Buckeye neighborhood during the Great Depression. Her parents were hardworking and resourceful, despite the harsh economic times. Even when they lost their home to foreclosure, and during a time when young women were not encouraged to further their education, her par-

ents always stuck to their plan for her to go to college. In 1941, she graduated magna cum laude with bachelor's degrees in English and Sociology from Ohio University, and her quest for learning, sparked early on by her parents, never diminished.

In 1982, Mrs. Elsner and a friend signed up to take a class at Cleveland State University, and she has been enrolled ever since. For nearly thirty years, she has taken two to three classes every semester. She holds the record for the most classes taken by any one student at Cleveland State—more than 100. Whether rain, sleet or snow, Mrs. Elsner walks to the bus stop every day she has a class and takes the bus downtown from her home in South Euclid. Mrs. Elsner's positive attitude and boundless energy continue to inspire. Her love of life and devotion to family and friends continues to frame each day. Together, she and her beloved husband, the late Sidney Elsner, raised three sons and instilled within them the same values of hard work and the significance of a solid college education.

Madam Speaker and Colleagues, please join me in honor and recognition of Jean Elsner, whose exuberance for life, quick smile, caring heart and love for learning continues to enrich and inspire students, professors, friends and family. We wish her continued health, peace and happiness in all the years to come.

EARMARK DECLARATION

HON. GREG WALDEN

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 14, 2009

Mr. WALDEN. Madam Speaker, consistent with the House Republican Leadership's policy on earmarks, to the best of my knowledge the requests I have detailed below are (1) not directed to an entity or program that will be named after a sitting Member of Congress; and (2) not intended to be used by an entity to secure funds for other entities unless the use of funding is consistent with the specified purpose of the earmark. As required by earmark standards adopted by the House Republican Conference, I submit the following information on projects I requested and that were included in the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2010, H.R. 3288.

Account: Transportation & Community & System Preservation

Project Name: 5th and 6th Street Reconstruction, OR

Legal Name and Address of Requesting Entity: City of Redmond, 716 SW., Evergreen Avenue, Redmond, Oregon 97756

Project Location: Madras, Oregon

Description of Project: H.R. 3288 appropriates \$779,200 for the 5th and 6th Street Reconstruction project located in Redmond, Oregon. According to the requesting entity, funding would be used to remove and replace existing pavement surfacing and sub-grade material and restore the street section to minor arterial standard. According to the City of Redmond, this is a valuable use of taxpayer funds because it will encourage local use and the 5th/6th Street Couplet cannot be properly maintained without reconstruction, as the existing condition cannot accommodate additional maintenance treatments.

Account: Surface Transportation Priorities

Project Name: U.S. Highway 97 and J Street Intersection Project, OR

Legal Name and Address of Requesting Entity: City of Madras, 71 SE "D" Street, Madras, Oregon, 97741

Project Location: Madras, Oregon

Description of Project: H.R. 3288 appropriates \$681,800 for the U.S. Highway 97 and J Street Intersection Project located in Madras, Oregon. According to the requestor, funds would be used to modernize and realign the intersection of J Street where it bisects U.S. Highways 26 and 97 within the city limits of Madras, Oregon. According to the City of Madras, this is a valuable use of taxpayer funds because it will improve transportation safety and efficiency, create and preserve jobs, and enable further economic development.

Account: Surface Transportation Priorities

Project Name: Brett Way Extension, OR

Legal Name and Address of Requesting Entity: City of Klamath Falls, 500 Klamath Avenue, Klamath Falls, OR 97601

Project Location: Klamath Falls, Oregon

Description of Project: H.R. 3288 appropriates \$292,200 for the Brett Way Extension, OR Project located in Klamath Falls, Oregon. According to the requestor, funds would go towards closure of an unsafe intersection located at Summers Lane and the South Side Bypass and the extension of Brett Way from Summers Lane to Homedale Road, as well as installation of water line and sanitary sewer, construction of a bridge over an existing canal, and elimination of a uncontrolled rail crossing on Summers Lane. According to the City of Klamath Falls, this is a valuable use of taxpayer dollars because it would open access to the underutilized airport industrial park area as well as provide much needed alternate access to the airport.

Account: Economic Development Initiatives

Project Name: For the reconstruction and construction needs of facilities which are critical to the local economy

Legal Name and Address of Requesting Entity: Pendleton Round-Up, 1114 SW Court Avenue, Pendleton, OR, 97801

Project Location: Pendleton, Oregon

Description of Project: H.R. 3288 appropriates \$487,000 for the Pendleton Round-Up and Happy Canyon Facilities Improvements located in Pendleton, Oregon. According to the requestor, funds would be used to construct the Centennial Grandstand facility to replace an aging structure that has outlived its useful life and to complete the reconstruction of the four-phase project at Happy Canyon. According to the Pendleton Round-Up, this is a valuable use of taxpayer funds because this project would preserve a world renowned rodeo and Native American cultural event.

RECOGNIZING THE VILLAGE OF HOFFMAN ESTATES' 50TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. MELISSA L. BEAN

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 14, 2009

Ms. BEAN. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize the Village of Hoffman Estates, a town in my district that is celebrating a milestone anniversary this year. This community has made a

unique contribution to the district I represent, and to the State of Illinois.

The Village of Hoffman Estates is celebrating its 50th anniversary. Located in Cook County, Hoffman Estates was established in 1954 when a local farmer sold his 160 acre farm to Sam and Jack Hoffman, owners of the Father and Son Construction Company. The Hoffmans built a development and in 1959, the residents of the subdivision voted to incorporate as the village of Hoffman Estates. In the following decades, Hoffman Estates continued to annex surrounding areas and developments. Business also came to Hoffman Estates including the Sears, Roebuck and Company in 1992.

Madam Speaker, the Village of Hoffman Estates is unique in its history and adds greatly to the vibrant community of the Eighth District of Illinois. I thank all the past leaders of the Village of Hoffman Estates for their dedication to public service; their community would not have reached this milestone without their hard work and commitment. I congratulate Hoffman Estates for reaching their 50th anniversary and I wish them continued success in the future.

OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL DEBT

HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 14, 2009

Mr. COFFMAN of Colorado. Madam Speaker, today our national debt is \$12,081,709,382,532.35.

On January 6th, 2009, the start of the 111th Congress, the national debt was \$10,638,425,746,293.80.

This means the national debt has increased by \$1,443,283,636,238.55 so far this year.

According to the non-partisan Congressional Budget Office, the forecast deficit for this year is \$1.6 trillion. That means that so far this year, we borrowed and spent an average \$4.4 billion a day more than we have collected, passing that debt and its interest payments to our children and all future Americans.

WALL STREET REFORM AND CONSUMER PROTECTION ACT OF 2009

SPEECH OF

HON. JAMES R. LANGEVIN

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 9, 2009

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 4173) to provide for financial regulatory reform, to protect consumers and investors, to enhance Federal understanding of insurance issues, to regulate the over-the-counter derivatives markets, and for other purposes:

Mr. LANGEVIN. Madam Chair, I rise in strong support of H.R. 4173, the Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act, which will rebuild our economy and crack down on Wall Street to prevent another economic collapse caused by institutions that are "too big to fail."

Over the past year, I, like many Rhode Islanders, have been angered by the greed exhibited by Wall Street and other companies that took advantage of their investors, preyed on our constituents, and rewarded executives with outrageous pay packages. With this bill, consumer protection will come first, and irresponsible companies will be held accountable for their actions.

H.R. 4173 establishes the Consumer Financial Protection Agency, which will protect families and small businesses by ensuring that bank loans, mortgages, credit cards and other financial products are fair, affordable and transparent. Merchants will be excluded from the oversight of the CFPB, and small banks and credit unions will not be subject to undue regulatory burdens. However, the CFPB will play a backup role if the primary regulators fail in their oversight responsibilities.

This measure also establishes an orderly process for dismantling large, failing financial institutions like AIG or Lehman Brothers, which will protect taxpayers and prevent collapse throughout the rest of the financial system. These large institutions will pay into a fund that will be tapped if a company faces dissolution. There will be no more taxpayer bailouts for these "too big to fail" institutions.

Additionally, H.R. 4173 responds to the failure to detect frauds like the Madoff scheme by ordering a study of the entire securities industry. This measure will also increase investor protections by strengthening the Securities and Exchange Commission and boosting its funding level. For the first time ever, the over-the-counter derivatives marketplace will be regulated under this bill and hedge funds will have to register with the SEC. It also takes steps to reduce market reliance on the credit rating agencies and impose a liability standard on the agencies.

I would like to thank the committees for their work on this bill, and especially want to thank Chairman FRANK for his leadership on this strong reform measure. I encourage all my colleagues to vote for this bill.

RECOGNIZING THE 20TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE VILLAGE OF BEACH PARK

HON. MELISSA L. BEAN

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 14, 2009

Ms. BEAN. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize the village of Beach Park, a town in my district celebrating a milestone anniversary this year. Each of these communities has made a unique contribution to district I represent, and to the State of Illinois.

The village of Beach Park is celebrating its 20-year anniversary. Located on Lake Michigan, Beach Park was a stop on the Chicago-Milwaukee Electric Railroad named "Beach Depot" in the early 1900s. In 1928, F.H. Bartlett Co. of Chicago purchased land near the rail station and sold parcels of land to city residents looking to escape to the country. In 1949, the community adopted the name of Beach Park and put a school district and fire department in place. But it was not until 1989 that the village of Beach Park was incorporated.

Madam Speaker, the village of Beach Park is unique in its history and adds to the vibrant